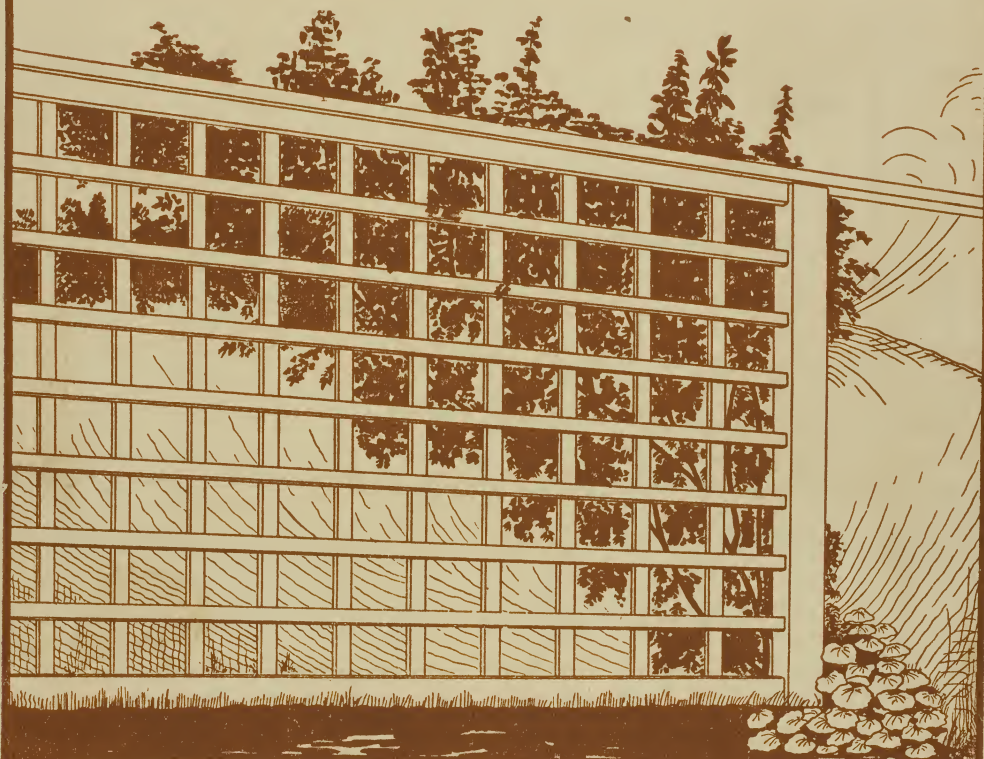


# California Garden



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FEBRUARY, 1922

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# The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association  
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 13

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, FEB, 1922

No. 8

## IRIS AS CRUDE DRUG

Helen E. Ricketts.  
(In Bulletin of American Iris Society.)

The Iris has quite a romance apart from that of its life in gardens which is told in brief notes, here and there in the annals of medicine. It has never played a leading part in the great company of drugs, but its role has been a useful and fanciful one. Though it is not possible to say with any degree of surety when Iris was first mentioned in the lists of the herbalists and drug clerks, it is known that *I. foetidissima* figured in the medical superstitions of ancient Greece. Tales of dire happenings which occurred when a layman so much as attempted to gather the drugs of that day seemed to have been circulated by the herbalists to keep their trade exclusive. For instance, it was believed that an offering of honey cake must be made whenever *I. foetidissima* was rooted up and that the Peony must be gathered at night, since the eyes of the herbalist were endangered if a woodpecker witnessed the gathering of the fruit.

Orris Root next comes up for recognition, and we find the peeled rhizomes of *I. florentina* doing duty as teething rings for the infants of various countries, a practice which still prevails in some parts. Though doctors look upon this with disfavor, Orris Root Fingers may be purchased from almost any druggist today. Later various constituents and properties were assigned to Orris Root, which was much in demand medicinally on the Continent for some time. At present, it is valued not so much for the principles it contains and its therapeutic action, as for its odor and suitability for use in tooth pastes and powders, special formulas, perfumery, and in the better grades of cosmetics, toilet powders, various creams, lotions, etc. Orris Oil, distilled from the root, is a favored product. Contrary to the usual belief Orris Root is not secured entirely from the Florentine Iris, but indiscriminately from *I. florentina*, *I. germanica*, and *I. pallida*. Indeed, it is in all probability composed to the greatest extent of the last two, since the latter are more hardy and common in Tuscany, from which most of the root is exported. During the year much interest was aroused in the domestic cultivation of the root, but it is doubtful if much will come of this, since labor

costs here are unfavorable and the time necessary (usually three years) for the proper curing of the roots to its full fragrance is discouraging to American growers.

Now comes *I. versicolor*, at present the most prominent of the Iris family, medicinally. The history of Blue Flag, this drug's official name, has been one of ups and downs, first in favor with the profession and then again, discredited as a "quack remedy". Its standing at this time seems uncertain, depending chiefly upon the views of the doctor himself. Some have expressed the belief that it is of coming importance, and I have heard it called a "has been". Still, it seems to me from the preparations on the market and the amount of them used, that it is one of the important native vegetable drugs of its class. Its use certainly does not appear to be decreasing, and the procuring of properly gathered and cured, authentic Blue Flag is a growing problem other than *versicolor*. Just what these are it is impossible to definitely decide from present available information, though some research work has been done along this line, and further experiments are under way. The commercial cultivation of Blue Flag is considered practical and profitable under present conditions, but the greatest per cent of the drug now on the market is gathered in the wild state by root diggers, the majority of whom in their lack of knowledge seem to gather "anything at anytime", which accounts in part for the quality of the crude drug now offered. To meet requirements Blue Flag must consist of the rhizomes of *I. versicolor* gathered in the fall deprived of the rootlets and carefully air-dried.

Despite the information of interest and value now available in books of medicine and pharmacognocny, there is much yet to be done on the subject of Iris as a crude drug; and we await further developments.

Exhibit the products of your garden at the Spring Flower Show.

Watch for announcement of date.

## Annuals For Spring Sowing and Summer Blooming

By Jno G. Morley,  
Supt. Parks, San Diego.

The varieties enumerated in this list are all very good for growing in San Diego and vicinity.

Asters may be sown at once, with a succession every 30 days until June 1st. They may either be sown in seed boxes or in the open ground where they are to bloom. Be sure and have good rich soil and full exposure to the sun. If you have not room to sow the seed where you want them to bloom on account of the ground being occupied with spring flowers, it will be advisable to sow in seed flats or a small seed bed provided for that purpose.

After the seedlings are up and have developed 3 or 4 leaves they should be pricked off into other flats or beds about 2 inches apart each way, and after attaining sufficient size planted out into the area where they are to bloom.

These recommendations cover all the hardy annuals and those that are classed as more or less tender in the Eastern states. The following varieties may be treated as advised.

Asters of all varieties. Balsams, sow in a warm place. *Browallia*, *speciosa* major and *elata grandiflora*.

*Calliopsis* or *Coreopsis*, annual varieties.

Candytuft, all colors and varieties. *Celosia*, Cockscomb, in yellow crimson and pink varieties. *Celosia Plumosa* all colors. *Celosias* are better seeded in flats in a warm protected location, unless you wait until the ground is warm, about the later part of April, and in the month of May, when they may be sown in the open ground and covered very lightly.

*Centaurea Imperialis* (Sweet Sultan); *Centaurea Moschatus*; *Centaurea Suaveolens*; *Centaurea Cyanus* (Bachelor Button). All are better to be sown where they are to bloom.

*Clarkias* all colors. *Collinsias*.

*Cosmos* all colors, both single and double. It is better to sow them in June and July where they are to bloom as they make better plants and do not overgrow and break down as when shown in the spring. They may be thinned out to a distance of 12 to 18 inches apart.

*Dahlias* should be sown from now until May 1st. If sown now, sow in flats and transplant later on, as the weather is too cool for the seed in the open ground at the present time. They are among the most satisfactory flowers to grow as they come readily from seed, and it is possible that you will have several very good varieties come from seed. The bulbs or tubers that are usually planted in April or May.

*Dianthus*,—these annuals are among the best

for the garden, the wide range of colors are charming and they are very valuable for cutting. The following varieties are among the best.

*Heddwigi*,—both double and single; *Imperialis*, variegated. *Diadematus*, *Mikado* and *Fringed* varieties. *Didiscus coeruleus*, flowers pale lavender and very fine for cutting for bouquets, 18 inches high.

*Gaillardia Picta*, single variety, *Lorenziana*, double mixed. These are the *gaillardias* that are classed as annuals and are fine for cutting producing a continuous show of bloom for a long season.

*Gaura lindhameri*, a biennial. If sown now will bloom this season. They grow two feet high and are very fine for cutting for bouquets,—color red-tinted white.

*Godetia*, *Duchess of Albany* (white) *Gloriosa* (crimson), also mixed colors may be sown, they are very effective in the garden.

*Gypsophila Elegans*, annual variety and very fine to cut and mix with other flowers for bouquets, (sow in place where it is to bloom).

*Hollyhocks*, annual varieties.

*Hunnemania Fumariaefolia*, yellow tulip poppy, very fine for cutting and should be sown where they are to bloom.

*Larkspur*, all annual varieties. They are among the best of the annuals for cut flowers and may be sown either in separate colors or mixed, they can either be sown in the open ground or in seed flats and transplanted.

*Lavatera* (Annual Marsh Mallow) will bloom all summer and require good rich soil.

*Linum grandiflorum rubrum*, scarlet flax, is good either for spring or fall sowing.

Lupins, very pretty annuals either separate colors or mixed separate colors that are food are, *Hartwegii* white, *Hartwegii* blue, *Cruickshanki* blue and yellow. *Hybridus atrococcineus* scarlet tipped white.

*Mignonette* all varieties.

*Mirabilis*, (Marvel of Peru).

*Malope* (Mallow) very pretty annuals of the mallow family similar to *lavatera*.

*Marigolds* African both yellow and orange.

*Marigolds* Eldorado both yellow and orange.

*Marigolds* French, both double and single.

Dwarf Scotch mixed. Legion of Honor.

*Nasturtiums* both tall and dwarf.

*Nasturtiums* Lobbs or *Tropaeolum Lobbianum*,—all *nasturtiums* are very effective in the garden and may be procured in separate varieties or mixed.

*Nicotiana Affinis*, a very pretty white variety.

*Affinis hybridus* all colors very fine.

*Nemesia strumosa* Suttoni, very fine strain can be procured in separate colors or mixed,

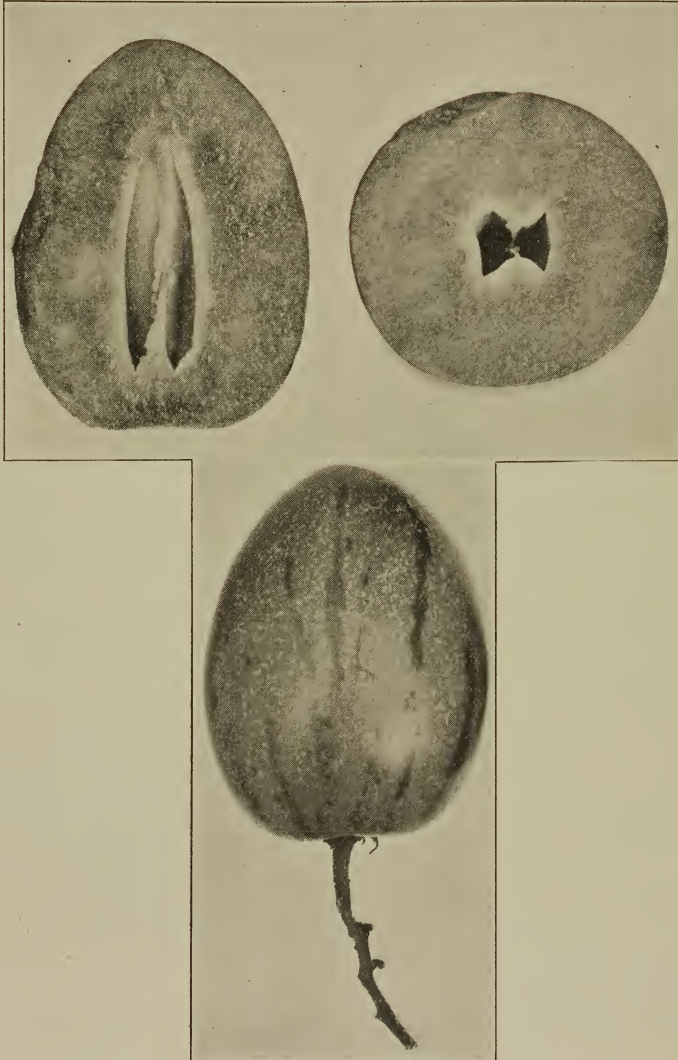
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## THE PEPINO

Fred W. Herbert

Hidden about in various nooks and corners in Southern California are many horticultural surprises in the way of unique plants that have been seen by few people. Many of these new plants remain strangers indefinitely, not always for lack of merit but because they do not come to the notice of those who would be sufficiently interested to take

could hardly have been passed unnoticed. Of the size of a lemon, shaped like an ox-heart, very smooth of skin and rich yellow in color with purple striping, it naturally attracted the eye and was much admired. So striking an exterior led many of the curious to investigate further and upon cutting it open they were pleasantly surprised to find the



**PEPINO**  
(*Solanum*  
*muricatum*)  
one-half natural size  
Photo by  
R. L. Taylor.

these strangers in. Often they create unusual interest when brought to the proper attention.

At one of the farm products booths at the San Diego County Fair last fall there appeared a fruit new and strange even to those well acquainted with Southern California's many horticultural novelties. The fruit

fruit perfectly seedless with an abundance of yellow edible flesh between the small seed cavity and the very thin skin. Inquiries as to the nature of the plant and its culture has prompted this brief account.

This unique and beautiful fruit, a native of Central America, is known by the name pepino, or melon pear, and the botanical de-

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signation of the plant is *Solanum muricatum*. The pepino should be of particular interest to garden lovers in Southern California. It was first brought into this country by a Californian, Gustav Eisen, and from what is known of its performance and requirements, the coast section of this state probably affords the best conditions for its culture.

The pepino plant is a bushy herb, becoming almost woody, of the size of a large tomato plant, erect in its early growth but later becoming somewhat spreading, especially if weighted down with fruits. The foliage is a fresh rich green, the leaves comparing with those of the peach tree in size and shape, though the margins are not finely serrated as on the leaves of the peach. The bright blue flowers are borne in clusters or loose cymes and resemble those of the potato plant. They are borne continuously in this climate and at times very profusely. A single cluster may have ten or fifteen flowers but usually not more than three or four will set fruit. The time from blossoming to mature fruit is about two and one-half to three months.

The fruit is something of a perplexity. It has a very juicy pulp, in consistency not unlike a musk melon, but in taste it is sometimes quite acid. This is especially true in this climate if the plants are grown in the open where they receive plenty of sunshine. Fruits from exposed plants oftentimes have a bit of a bitter aftertaste. When grown in the shade, under laths, on the other hand, the plants produce larger and finer fruits, more mildly acid and very acceptable to some tastes. The fruits shown in the natural size illustrations were from plants grown under lath frames and were approximately three inches in length and two inches in diameter. Fruits somewhat larger and weighing approximately one-half pound have been produced at Chula Vista. The ripe fruit has a pleasant, aromatic scent. The flavor of the pepino is difficult to describe but an idea of its edible quality might be ascertained if one could imagine a muskmelon having a slightly acid taste, with something reminiscent of the tomato in it.

The cultural requirements of the plant are plenty of water and, as indicated above, partial shade is probably essential for the production of the best fruits. The plant is propagated by cuttings or layers.

That the pepino attracted more than passing notice in California as long as thirty-five years ago is indicated in the following statement by Mr. Eisen, taken from the *Garden Monthly*, xxix. 84, of 1887: "As to the value of the fruit and the success of it in the States, only time will tell. The fact that I found the plant growing only on the high land where the temperature in the shade seldom reaches 75 degrees Fahr., suggested to me the probability that it would fruit in a more northern latitude. In California, it has proved a success in the cooler parts, such as in Los Angeles city, and in several places in the coast

range, and will undoubtedly fruit in many other localities, where it is not too hot.\*\*\* My friend the late Mr. J. Grellck, of Los Angeles, had a plantation of 10,000 pepinos, which grew and bore well and he sold considerable fruit. In pulp and skin the pepino resembles somewhat the Bartlett pear, but in taste more a musk melon; but it has besides a most delicious acid, entirely wanting in melons and quite peculiarly its own. In warm localities this acid does not develop, and this fact is the greatest drawback to the success of the fruit."

An account of the pepino, with historical information, is contained in Bulletin 37, of the Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, 1891. The principal objection to the pepino up to that time appeared to be its shyness in setting fruit which, however, apparently did not apply to California. Mr. Eisen is quoted as stating that in Guatemala the pepino "yields abundantly, in fact enormously, 100 to 150 fruits to a vine four feet in diameter being nothing uncommon. I have seen it yield similarly in California, but whenever exposed to too much heat and dryness, it is very slow to set fruit." While in nowise approaching this yield, plants grown at Chula Vista during the past several years have fruited quite freely.

As an ornamental the pepino lends itself as a very interesting addition to the garden plants of this vicinity and it should be of exceptional interest as a lath-house plant. In its prime it has a well rounded shape and

*Continued on page 6*

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# The February Gardens

## THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

If the present very unfavorable weather continues little can be done outside until conditions change, but catalogs as they come to us can be studied, orders made out and sent off. In favorable locations the local nurseries can be visited, we can make selections from plants growing and thus be ready for reconstruction in our gardens, for this is what a great many of us will have to do,—replant. Selecting seeds is merely picking out our favorites. If your soil in the seed boxes is usable many things can be started under cover now; sift the soil and have it good and rich, sow your seeds thinly—a great many fail to mature where they are crowded in the row. Good seeds are too expensive to be wasted these days. If seeds are fine and hard to distribute, mix them with fine sand, then spread over the surface of the box and press down lightly, sow in rows and leave at least an inch between rows, have good drainage, and water the little seedlings very carefully with a fine spray or else you will drown them out. The majority of annuals grown here can be planted in boxes from now on; they will come up quickly and soon make sturdy little plants for putting in permanent places as soon as your ground is in favorable condition. Great progress has been made of late in seed growing, new types have been introduced, old ones improved so that you will hardly recognize them in their new dress. Notable among the annuals are the Zinnias and Asters,—nor are the old-fashioned Marigolds of the grandmothers' garden far behind them, some being as large and handsome as Dahlias. The cost of seeds of annuals is less than of perennials, they come into bloom quickly, have a longer season of bloom, giving a great display in the garden, but no garden is perfect without three things,—combined shrubs, annuals and perennials. Vines, too, have their place but these are usually confined to the fence, the trellis or pergolas, not scattered through the garden.

If you have time and patience the most economical way of getting a good stock of perennials is from seed. Few of them bloom the first season from seed, but many of them increase in size and beauty, year after. Amongst those that do well with us a selection of a good dozen might do;—coreopsis lanceolata—yellow, Shasta daisy—white, Gaillardias in all shades of yellow and red, Penstemons, Dianthus or pinks in variety, Hollyhocks, Gazanias, Salvia in shades of blue, Forget-me-nots, Sunflowers, Delphiniums, Lo-

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

Well, the rains did not come just exactly as we wanted them, but we certainly got a wonderful soaking and they will be of inestimable benefit to the country. It is now up to the home gardener as well as the rancher to make the most of them. If you have not already gone over your ground do not delay to do so. First get the nooks and corners that are usually so hard to irrigate, also the uncultivated ground around shrubs and trees that has been neglected for so long, and then go over the main part of the garden spading everything up thoroughly, turning in well rotted manure where necessary. When the ground has not already been gone over the weeds are coming thick and fast; do not allow them to sap the moisture from the ground, and use up the plant foods in the soil. They will do that very thing if you do not give them immediate attention.

If you have fruit trees have the pruning attended to at once, also the spraying, particularly your peach trees for leaf curl. If you spray at once use one part lime and sulphur solution to eleven parts of water, that is provided the buds are just swelling. If they are showing signs of leafing out use one to forty parts of water. If you have any aphids on your winter beans or peas get a small bottle of Blackleaf 40 and use at rate of one teaspoonful to a gallon of water. In all spraying be very thorough, being careful

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belias, etc. These are a few only of those seen in our gardens that grow with little care. Among new things is a Geum similar to "Mrs. Bradshaw", but a deep orange yellow, a new Sweet William, double, "pure white, with a drop of carmine in the center", also an ever-blooming stock, which ought to be good.

Do not neglect the bulbous things at this season if the sun comes out warm, many of them will push up over stalks, keep the soil loose around them and use a little nitrate very carefully.

Have something for the bulb show which will be held either the last of March or early in April.

#### JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting of the Floral Association, which was in the nature of a semi-annual, was held in the rooms of the Thearle Music Co., the evening of the 17th, with a goodly number present. Mr. Gorton, President, spoke of the work of the Floral Association during its past and plans laid for the future in which the hope was expressed that the Association as a body would do better and bigger things than ever before. Also on the El Monte Oaks project in which the Floral Association has interested itself, asking for the hearty co-operation of all in preserving this grove, for the benefit of future generations. After business was transacted Mr. Harold Taylor, the entertainer of the evening, was introduced, though an introduction of Mr. Taylor to the San Diego public is superfluous,—his beautiful colored slides of San Diego and her gardens are known and admired by the hundreds who have seen them, and judging from the O-hs and A-hs as each one was thrown on the screen, at this particular time, these must have far excelled all previously shown.

At the close of the meeting a distribution of seeds was made, every one who wished was given a packet of seed as they passed out with a gentle reminder that something be grown for the Spring Flower Show. A goodly number of plants, too, were in evidence for distribution. The meeting was closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Taylor for a very enjoyable and instructive entertainment.

MARY MATTHEWS, Secretary.

that every part of the tree or plant is reached by the spray. Growing conditions are likely to be more favorable as the season progresses, so that by keeping your soil in a fine state of cultivation so that air and sun can penetrate, you will get the maximum of growth in your vegetables and flowers. The time is right now for planting potatoes. It will pay you to get government certified seed. White or Red Rose or British Queen are all good, the first mentioned being the most popular. Asparagus and artichoke roots can now be planted. The latter make large, handsome plants, so do not set them out closer than 3 or 4 feet apart. Get out your rhubarb, strawberries and other berry plants as soon as possible, also any fruit trees you are going to plant. Once the sap begins to flow, you are much more likely to lose them. This also applies to rose bushes, which at this time of year can be handled with bare roots, the tops being properly pruned back at time of planting. Owing to the lateness of the season you should still be successful with peas, which will be very scarce on the market owing to the heavy losses from frost and rain. In fact it looks now as though all vegetables will will be scarce and high priced during the early summer, so it will pay you to put in a good home garden this spring.

#### THE PEPINO

*Continued from page 4*

abundant foliage. The stems of the dark green leaves have a purplish tinge. The purplish blue flowers with yellow centers are numerous and showy.

To many no apology need be made for the taste of the fruit but in any event its very beauty, as in the case of the pomegranate, alone justifies its culture. The plant needs to be grown mode widely, as no doubt new locations and conditions can be found that will result in fruits superior in size and quality to any yet produced. When more and finer fruits of the pepino are available their edible value can be better ascertained.

—BUY W. S. S.—

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## Dr. C. C. PARRY

Of the U. S. and Mexican Boundary Commission.

By Lena B. Hunzicker.

Reference Librarian, San Diego Public Library

It is to Dr. C. C. Parry that San Diego County owes one of the earliest scientific descriptions of its back country, made while this eminent scientist was serving as geologist and botanist for the U. S. and Mexican Boundary Commission.

To sketch the main facts of his life, Dr. Charles Christopher Parry was by birth an Englishman, claiming Admington, Gloucestershire as the place of his nativity and August 25, 1823, as the date.

When the boy was nine years old the Parry family left England, emigrated to the United States and settled on a farm in New York State. In education the young lad had the best of what the times had to offer and after finishing Union College, he completed a medical course at Columbia University, receiving the degree of M. D.

After finishing college he removed to Davenport, Iowa, where he practised his profession for three years. Here it was that Dr. Parry developed his wonderful ability for botany, by thoroughly mastering the knowledge of the plant life in the vicinity of Davenport.

This knowledge proved a valuable stepping stone in his career and really seems to have determined his subsequent life, for in 1848 he received an appointment to the geological survey of the Northwest and in 1849 to the Mexican Boundary Survey, first as assistant surgeon, and later in a scientific capacity.

Thus for several years he traveled extensively through Mexico, Texas and California, adding tremendously to his knowledge of plant life. It was during this period that Dr. Parry came with the Mexican Boundary Commission to San Diego County. In fact Dr. Parry himself made the reconnaissance from the coast just below San Diego to the mouth of the Gila River, covering a period from September 11, to December 10, 1849.

Major Emory in his report of the Commission says, "Lieut. A. W. Whipple, corps of Topographical Engineers, assisted by Messrs. Parry and Ingraham, were assigned to the charge of the party to determine the other extremity of the straight line forming the boundary at the junction of the Gila and the Colorado. In addition to his duties as assistant Dr. Parry was charged with the geological and botanical investigations to illustrate the physical geography of the country."

It is Dr. Parry's report of this reconnaissance that we are particularly interested in.

On the morning of September 11, 1849, the astronomical party left the San Diego Mission, which seems to have been its headquarters for the Colorado River. Their route followed naturally the San Diego River Gorge, coming out in the Santa Monica (El Cajon) Valley.

Mention was made of traces of the old irrigating ditch and aqueduct leading down to the mission.

From the Santa Monica Valley their course lay northeast, although very soon they came to the immense mountain barrier which seemed to block their way eastward. However, by following a rude trail along the edge of a ravine they finally succeeded in crossing this mountain barrier and entered another large valley, the Santa Maria (now known as the Ramona Valley).

Dr. Parry describes this valley as an open plain, destitute of timber although on the adjacent mountain slopes he found growing the California live oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*). Apparently the valley presented much the same natural appearance then as now.

From here they followed the Kearny route of 1846 to Santa Isabel. The increasing altitude brought them into the attractive mountain regions of South California. In his own words Dr. Parry writes, "Groves of live oaks, verdant shrubbery and rich pasturage, set off in the background by high rocky cliffs, or disclosing in the distance pine-fringed heights, marked against the clear sky."

At Santa Ysabel the party took a cut-off across the mountains rejoining the wagon road at San Felipe. No doubt this cut-off was by way of Julian. Just before reaching the crest of the ridge they passed the rancho of a Mr. Williams. From the top of one of the higher peaks in the vicinity, Dr. Parry reports a view "strikingly grand", "We here overlook to the westward, the unbroken mountain ranges stretching in a dim line seaward; to the east the descent is more abrupt and the view shows the bare outline of the desert mountains, projecting in irregular spurs into the desert plain, or standing as isolated ridges in the dull brown expanse below."

From here the trail led them down into the open plain of the San Felipe. On the way they came into the gold region, which Dr. Parry reports as of region of "the fairest prospects of mineral resources".

So far little mention was made of the botany of the country. This, however, is not surprising for they passed through the country during the barest time of the year, when very little was in bloom.

San Felipe marked, however, a complete contrast to the first part of the reconnaissance. Thorny cacti and arid shrubbery now dotted the open plains and desert canyons everywhere. Here they first noted the two characteristic desert plants, *Larrea Mexicana* and *Fouquiera Splendens*.

From San Felipe valley they followed the

Cariso Creek then struck off across the desert in the direction of the Colorado River. On the way thither they camped about eight miles directly north of Signal Mountain. Of the last life of the Colorado River region Dr. Parry reports the river bottoms as heavily wooded with mesquite, so thick, in fact, that they made an almost impenetrable thicket. Here some time was spent in making surveys until about the first of December when the party returned to San Diego.

Dr. Parry himself came back with the advance party which left the wagon route at Cariso Creek to return to headquarters by a more direct also exceedingly more difficult route. No doubt this route brought them back somewhere in the region of the present Mountain Springs grade.

The following spring while continuing his geological investigations in this region, Dr. Parry had occasion to make a closer investigation of the peculiar pines growing on the coast bluffs near San Diego. These he found to be a new type and he named them *Pinus Torreyana* in honor of Dr. John Torrey.

Once again, in the fall and winter of 1880, and in company with Dr. George Engelmann of St. Louis Dr. Parry visited San Diego. At that time he made a more thorough investigation of this unique pine. He writes, "Here, seeking shelter from the fervid rays of a February sun under the scant shade of a decrepit forest monarch, listening to the sullen dash of the Pacific waves against the bold shores, among other unmentionable thoughts, one oars uppermost like drifting seaweed and finding a fitting expression here. Why should not San Diego, within whose corporate limits this straggling remnant of a past age finds a last, lingering resting place, secure from threatened extermination this remarkable and unique Pacific Coast production so singularly confined within its boundaries; dedicating this spot of ground forever to the cause of scientific instruction and recreation, where wiser generations than ours may sit beneath its ample shade, and listening to the same musical waves, thank us for sparing this tree?"

Such is the story of Dr. Parry's scientific connection with San Diego County. The remaining events of his life we will sketch but briefly.

In the summer of 1854 he was offered a position with the second boundary commission similar to the one held by him with the first commission. This position he refused to accept.

1861 found him exploring the Rocky Mountain region especially the Colorado peaks. In 1867 he was with the Pacific Railroad Survey as botanist. Later for two years he was employed by the United States Department of Agriculture arranging the botanical collections of the Smithsonian Institute.

Nor were all Dr. Parry's botanical commissions and investigations confined to the limits of the United States, for in 1871 he went

to San Domingo as botanist to a commission of investigation, while some seven years later he visited the less known parts of Mexico.

His last government position was that of special agent to the forestry department of the census office in 1880.

Ten years later on February 20, 1890, he passed away.

Thus the sixty-seven years of his life were crowded with much activity, and won for him an international reputation as scientist and naturalist. Sir Joseph Hooker, the eminent English botanist, called him "King of Colorado Botany". During his life time Dr. Parry himself collected more than 18,000 specimens, and discovered hundreds of species of which more than fifty bear his name.

In addition to this very busy active life he found time to write and revise a number of botanical works, of which we note the following: *Botanical Observations in Western Wyoming*, 1874, *Revision of the Pacific Coast Species of Arctostaphylos*, 1883, and the *North American Genus Ceanothus*, 1888.

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U. S. Senate Doc. 108, 34th Congress 1st Session, Vol I in Report of U. S. and Mexican Boundary Survey by Major W. H. Emory. (Contains Dr. Parry's Reconnaissance of the San Diego to Colorado Survey).

It is interesting to note that the San Diego Public Library owns the copy of this report owned formerly by Dr. John Torrey. The copy bears his autograph with the following address, U. S. Assay Office, 30 Wall St., New York.

#### FLANDERS POPPIES A PEST

New York.—Poppies transported from Flanders fields to blow unseen upon the ballast dump heaps of Jersey will not see another spring.

The federal horticultural board has adjudged them a nuisance and a pest to agriculture and ordered them plowed under, until they haven't the heart to rise again. The poppies were brought over in earth ballast, shipped in France by troop transports. They threaten to overrun surrounding gardens and truck farms.

"The reason the poppy blooms in France and Belgium is because the farmers can't get rid of it," said Harry H. Shaw, pathologist of the federal horticultural board.—N. Y. Rural Weekly.



MAIL ENTRY OF IMPORTS UNDER REG-  
ULATION 14, QUARANTINE 37 HERE  
AFTER PERMITTED

The importation by mail of plants and seeds for propagation, except field, vegetable and ower seeds, and importations made by the Department of Agriculture, is prohibited. (See U. S. Official Postal Guide, July, 1921, page 138, Section 180.) Inasmuch as importations made by special permit under Regulation 14, Quarantine 37, must necessarily be addressed to the Federal Horticultural Board either at Washington, D. C., or at the Ferry Building, San Francisco, Cal., and pass through the inspection offices of the Board at these points and be inspected and safeguarded by the agents of the Board, it is believed to be safe and desirable to extend the privilege of importation through the mails to such shipments.

In accordance with this decision, permission for the importation through the mails of special material under Regulation 14 will hereafter be authorized on request, when warranted by the nature and amount of the proposed shipment. Such authority, if approved, will be indicated on the permit, and tags for such mail shipments will be furnished. These tags will be addressed to the United States Department of Agriculture, Federal Horticultural Board, either Washington, D. C., or Ferry Building, San Francisco, Cal., and will carry the number of the permit authorizing the importation, and when attached to the package will authorize the foreign postmaster to accept it for shipment. By special arrangement with the United States Postoffice Department, such mail shipments, after inspection, may be forwarded to the importer without payment of additional postage. The entry requirements in the case of mail shipments are somewhat simplified. By arrangement with the customs service such shipments are permitted to come in bond directly to the Department of Agriculture either at the Washington or San Francisco offices of the Board, obviating any brokerage service for forwarding from port of first arrival. The importer will have to provide merely for customs clearance either at Washington or San Francisco.

It should be distinctly understood that mail shipment of plants and seeds for propagation is strictly limited to special permit material under Regulation 14, and to field, vegetable and flower seeds under Regulation 2, and is prohibited as to commercial or other entry under Regulations 3 and 15 of Quarantine 37.

C. L. MARLATT,  
Chairman of Board.  
January 17, 1922.

It will be appreciated if you will mention the Garden when you patronize its advertisers.

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting of the San Diego Floral Association was held at the home of Mrs. Nellie Osborn, 2073 Logan avenue. On account of change of time in both day and date, also of Christmas activities, not many were present, but a very interesting program was given. Miss Sessions gave one of her most instructive and entertaining talks, the subject being "The Nurseryman and the Garden." She gave details, for growing and planting as practiced by the nurseryman, illustrating her talk with specimens brought from her own nursery, one especially beautiful one was *Nandina domestica* from Japan, a very beautiful foliated thing which bears large panicles of white flowers not unlike the *escallonia*. These form red berries which are very lasting. The foliage also assumes the various autumn tints forming altogether an attractive shrub. Another thing highly praised was the cotoneaster, a beautiful berried shrub. Miss Sessions spoke also of the propagation of bedding stuff, of annuals and perennials as being work especially suited to the woman gardener. Miss Griebenow told of a tree *Tecoma* in her yard raised from seeds brought from Guatemala some years ago. This tree has reached a large size, bears immense heads of yellow bloom during the warm periods, is almost a year-round bloomer.

Some beautiful roses were brought by Mr. Mulvey, who is a rose enthusiast, also specimens from the garden of the hostess, to whom the Floral Association is greatly indebted for the use of her home and the cordial welcome given those present.

MARY MATTHEWS, Secretary.

CONFERENCE ON PLANT QUARANTINE

A conference is called by the Federal Horticultural Board at the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., March 15, 1922, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of considering the advisability of any modification—additions to or deductions from—of the classes of plants permitted entry under permit for immediate sale under Regulation 3 of Quarantine 37. Such conference will afford opportunity for a full and free discussion of the whole subject of the classes of plants involved and the restrictions enforced under this regulation.

Regulation 3 now provides for the entry of certain classes of bulbs, representing 80 to 90 per cent of the importations into the United States prior to the quarantine, and also of stocks, cuttings and scions of fruit, rose stocks, and seeds of fruit, forest, ornamental and shade trees and hardy shrubs. The purpose of the conference, therefore, is to consider the desirability of any restrictions in this list of plants or additions to it. Under this regulation open continuing permits are issued for the plants listed. In other words, there is no limitation on the number of plants which may be imported under such permits.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.



## ANNUALS FOR SPRING SOWING

*Continued from page 2*

they are one of the prettiest garden annuals.

Nigelia (love-in-the-mist) a very pretty annual and very good for cutting.

Aenothera (evening primrose) a very pretty garden annual.

Petunias, all varieties both double and single. These are among the most effective of garden flowers. The seed is very small and should be sown in seed flats or pans, care being taken not to cover too deep. After the seed is up the seedlings should be transplanted into other flats and when large enough planted in the place where they are to bloom; with full exposure to the sun, and be sure to give them plenty of room to spread.

Penstemon gloxinoides, Penstemons are perennials in this climate, if sown now will bloom by July, they are one of the very best flowering plants for the garden and very excellent for cutting.

Phlox Drummondii. One of the finest and prettiest of all garden annuals, can be had in all colors also very effective mixed. Better sow them when they are to bloom. The dwarf types are very pretty but not equal to the ordinary type grown in most gardens.

Salpiglossis. One of the most beautiful of all the garden flowers in rich velvety shades of yellow, purple and crimson, beautifully penciled and veined, should be sown where they are to bloom. Now is a good time to sow the seed.

Salvia, one of the brightest of the garden flowers with dense spikes of scarlet bloom. They are half hardy perennials, and seed should be sown at once in a nice warm place in flats and the seedlings transplanted.

Saponaria, dwarf pink flowering annuals, suitable for edging along paths or border of flower bed.

Scabiosa (Mourning Bride) Pin cushion flower, they are among the best of the garden flowers, producing abundant bloom suitable for cutting for bouquets. Can be had in separate colors or mixed.

Schizanthus (Butterfly Flower). A very pretty annual may be sown in the fall for early spring flowers, or sown in spring to flower in summer.

Stocks. One of the most popular of garden flowers grown the world over for their beauty and exquisite fragrance. There are many types and varieties, the best of which are the Intermediate Brompton, Cut and Come again and Princess Alice which are biennial. The varieties mostly grown are the giant ten weeks, Giant Perfection German Dwarf ten weeks, Princess Alice, Cut and Come again, and the Wall flower leaved. Seed can be procured in named varieties and separate colors. They may be sown in spring for summer flowering, and in the early fall for winter and spring flowering.

Sweet William, the annual varieties are

very effective and are a very pretty summer flower, the perennial varieties should be sown in July and August for blooming the following spring.

Sweet Peas. It is now time to sow for summer flowers. Do not delay, as they flower and grow much better if sown during the cool weather in deep rich soil. The varieties are too numerous to mention. The Giant Spencer types however are the best for general purposes.

Torenia. A beautiful tender annual. Seed should be sown in February or March, preferably in heat or a very warm situation. When large enough prick them off into flats and plant in the garden in April and May. They will commence to flower in June and continue all summer the varieties Bailloni, and Fournieri are the best.

Zinnias. These are among the best of the garden annuals, the improvements in recent years have made them among the most popular of all the garden annuals. They may be sown in a warm location at the present time and successive sowings made until the first of July for a continuous display of bloom until November. The new giant types, Dahlia Flowered Curled and Crested, and Picotee are the best of the large types, Dwarf Scarlet Gem, Robin Hood crimson, and Haageana (yellow Mexican) are the best of the small flowered varieties.

## BULB SHOW—

in MARCH

Watch for further Announcements.

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## BOYS' AND GIRLS' PAGE



### HUMUS ACTS AS A SPONGE

*Continued from January Number*

The practical lesson from all this study of the bacteria in the soil is that it is well worth while so to treat the land that these germs will be free to develop under as favorable conditions as possible. They live in dead plant or animal forms or executions, so these must be furnished. They require oxygen, so the soil must be drained and tilled. They do not thrive in acid soils, so lime must sometimes be applied. In short, the better the agricultural methods, the more completely can these tiny organisms carry on their beneficial work.

Many crops are planted every year on clay soils which have not lately been used for gardens. To insure success, follow these suggestions:

1. Be careful not to work the soil when it is too wet. Wait until it is dry enough to crumble between the fingers.

2. If well-rotted stable manure is available, plow in or spade in a good dressing of it. Or turn under a layer of old leaves or almost any kind of vegetation that you can get.

3. After the garden is plowed or spaded, and before it is harrowed or raked, spread lime evenly over the surface. If it is lime carbonate, spread it on to a thickness of at least half an inch. Then work the lime thoroughly into the soil.

4. After the lime is thoroughly raked in, spread on a light dressing of commercial fertilizer, work in a little commercial fertilizer in the bottom of each drill or furrow just before sowing the seed.

5. Select these crops for such soils: Lettuce, Swiss chard, sweet corn, beans and tomatoes. The root crops are not likely to do well until the garden has been worked over a season or more and a large amount of humus has been thoroughly worked into it.

### Letters From School Children

*(Furnished by Department of Agriculture, San Diego Schools)*

#### WILD VIOLET

I am a wild violet. I grow in the canyons. I am the sister of the tame violet, only she is purple and I am yellow. I love the beautiful canyons. There are other wild flowers besides me. There are the buttercups, shooting stars, daisies and paint brushes. I get plenty

of water, food, warmth and sunshine. Sometimes the children come down and pick us. Some destroy us. Others tramp on us. Some take us up to their homes and plant us. But I like the wilderness best. I am still happy so I will leave you.

WILLENE HARTLEY,  
5B Grade, Lincoln School.

#### SNAPDRAGONS

We are young snapdragon seedlings. When little boys and girls take us to plant, they always plant us too close together. We always like to be planted about a foot and half apart because, when we grow up we become little bushes and when they plant us so close together it is very hard to grow. We like lots of sunshine and water because that makes us grow. Once there was a little boy who took

#### WHAT I HAVE LEARNED

I have learned many things in the gardens since I have been here in San Diego. I have learned a great deal about the angle worm.

The angle worm is a harmless creature. It helps to plough up the ground and it enriches the soil, too.

I have also learned about the soil. The soil is made of ground, rocks mixed with decayed and decaying plant and animal matter. Gravel is soil composed of tiny rocks. Sand is composed of still smaller particles mixed with decaying material, while clay is made up of the finest kind of soil which sticks together.

JOSEPH JURAS,  
JB Grade, Lincoln School.

#### SWEET PEAS

My master Ted put me in the ground as a little seed. First he dug a hole and put water in it so I would not get thirsty. Then he put me in the ground and covered me up.

In about two weeks my roots started to grow and in about three weeks I came up. Ted was so glad that I came up at last. He carefully watered me and cultivated me so as to make a mulch about me.

In a little while I had beautiful pink and white flowers. Ted would pick them and give them to sick people.

I like to see people happy. Now don't you think that flowers can do good to people?

VIVIAN FAIRCHILD,  
Lincoln School.

## The California Garden

G. R. Gorton, Editor  
Office, Court House, San Diego, Cal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

### The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

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Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

#### ADVERTISING RATES

One Page .....	\$10.00	Half Page, .....	\$5.00
Quarter Page .....	2.50	Eighth Page .....	1.50

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#### THE BUTTERCUP

I am a little buttercup. I live mostly in the country. Little girls and boys let us kiss their chins to see if they like butter. We do not like little girls and boys to just throw us down, and tramp all over us, but we like to make little bouquets for the children. Neither do we like to have the cows come and eat us up. We like the green fields and meadows and we get plenty of food. We grow wild out in the country. Well, I hope the naughty little girls and boys won't destroy us, for we the useful flowers. We make the country beautiful in the spring time.

ALTA,  
Lincoln School.

#### OUR GARDEN

Thought I'd like to tell you a little about garden work. As you know I have been going to the Lincoln School. We have a very big garden. The first day I went to the garden I didn't know how to do anything. I didn't know how to cultivate the ground or plant a thing and if the teacher would tell me to get a rake I would get a hoe and oh! I was so stupid, but soon I began to get better. We plant sweet peas, lilies and other kinds of flowers and vegetables.

The Floral Association gave us some sweet peas to plant, so when the P. T. A. have their meeting in May we can give them some to decorate with.

MARGARET SALAZER,  
5A Grade, Lincoln School.

#### MY SWEET PEAS

The P. T. A. are to have a large meeting the last four days in May. They are to have

## Floral Association Meetings

March 21, 1922. at 8:00 P. M.

Subject: PATIO PLANTING

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Bailey  
4435 Ampudia St., Take No. 3 Car

the meeting in the Civic Auditorium at Balboa Park. They want to decorate with sweet peas.

Our garden teacher gave us sweet pea seed to plant. It was given to her by the Floral Association. I took some home and planted just a few, and today it has rained so hard that my seeds have drowned and some went flowing down a stream in our back yard. But just as soon as the weather is better I will plant the rest and I know they will be all right. When they are in bloom we will pick and tie them in bunches, and take these bunches to the P. T. A. What is left we keep for ourselves.

The P. T. A. have invited people all over California to this meeting. They are going to have girls wearing bouquets of peas for ushers. They are to have the rooms all decorated, so it will take a great many sweet peas.

MARGARET VINSON,  
5A Grade, Lincoln School.

Children are invited to exhibit flowers and vegetables at the Spring Show. Watch for announcement of date.

## The FLOWER SHOP



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